#### **MEMBERS**

Counties Alamance Caswell Davidson Davie Forsyth Guilford Montgomery Randolph Rockingham Stokes Surry Yadkin Municipalities Archdale Asheboro Bermuda Run Bethania Biscoe Boonville Burlington Candor Clemmons Cooleemee Danbury Denton Dobson East Bend Eden Elkin Flon Franklinville Gibsonville Graham Green Level Greensboro Haw River **High Point Tamestown** Jonesville Kernersville

King Lewisville Lexington

Liberty

Madison Mayodan

Mebane

Midway Mocksville

**Mount Airy** Mt. Gilead

Oak Ridge

Ramseur

Randleman Reidsville

Rural Hall Seagrove

Stokesdale

Stoneville Summerfield

Thomasville

**Tobaccoville** Trinity

Wallburg Walnut Cove Wentworth

Village of Alamance Walkertown

> Winston-Salem Yadkinville Yanceyville

Pilot Mountain Pleasant Garden



# **Piedmont Triad Regional Council Executive Committee Minutes**

Wednesday, September 07, 2016 12:00 noon PTRC Headquarters 1398 Carrollton Crossing Drive Kernersville, NC 27284

## **Members Present:**

Councilwoman Marikay Abuzuaiter, City of Greensboro Commissioner Kevin Austin, Yadkin County Mayor Jimmy Blake, Town of Biscoe Sharon Conaway, Town of Walnut Cove Mayor Alvin Foster, Town of Yanceyville Councilwoman Molly Leight, City of Winston-Salem Councilwoman Peggy Leight, Town of Walkertown Commissioner Wayne Moore, Town of Jonesville Chairman Jackie Morris, Montgomery County Commissioner Mark Richardson, Rockingham County Mayor Keith Volz, Town of Jamestown Commissioner Brent Ward, Town of Mocksville Mayor Larry Ward, Town of Denton

#### Members Absent

Councilman Latimer Alexander, City of High Point Mayor Dwight Atkins, Town of Pilot Mountain Mayor Buddy Boggs, Town of Haw River Councilman Jim Butler, City of Burlington Commissioner Alan Branson, Guilford County Councilman Darryl Carter, City of Eden Commissioner John Ferguson, Davie County Chairman Darrell Frye, Randolph County Commissioner Nathaniel Hall, Caswell County Commissioner Ernest Lankford, Stokes County Commissioner Walter Marshall, Forsyth County Commissioner Linda Massey, Alamance County Vice Chairman Larry Phillips, Surry County Mayor Bert Lance Stone, City of Archdale Commissioner Don Truell, Davidson County Commissioner Steve Yokeley, City of Mount Airy

Treasurer Kevin Austin welcomed the PTRC Executive Committee and called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m. He requested a moment of silence and then led the Executive Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 1. Action Item: Request for approval of August 3, 3016 PTRC Executive Committee minutes, Kevin Austin, PTRC Chairman
  - a. There being no questions, a motion was made by Mr. Keith Volz.
  - b. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mark Richardson.
  - c. Request for approval of August 3, 2016 PTRC Executive Committee minutes was approved.
- 2. Action Item: Request for approval to enter into phase 2 of the contract to provide professional planning services to the City of Thomasville in the amount of \$15,500 during the FY 2016-2017, Jesse Day, Planning Director
  - a. Phase 2 Estimated Duration: 4 months; Estimated Cost: \$15,500
  - b. Review zoning districts for the City of Thomasville and provide recommendations to the planning board for updating existing districts (especially M-1, M-2, C-1 to C-4) or adding new zoning districts (including conditional zoning districts) and revising the table of permitted uses, dimensions and setbacks for existing and new districts as necessary; and
  - c. Review parking and landscape requirements and provide updated regulations based on planning board input.
  - d. Phase 2 Deliverables: a) Updated ordinance sections to include new districts, park and landscaping requirements; b) two workshops with staff, planning board or other stakeholders; c) two presentations on ordinance updates to the planning board and/or City Council; and d) complete updated ordinance document ready for web posting and printing.
  - e. The City of Thomasville has already approved the contracted amount.
  - f. Mr. Mark Richardson asked if there was a phase three. Mr. Day responded no.
  - g. There being no more questions, a motion was made by Mr. Mark Richardson.
  - h. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wayne Moore.
  - Request for approval to enter into phase 2 of the contract to provide professional planning services to the City of Thomasville in the amount of \$15,500 during the FY 2016-2017 was approved.

#### 3. New Business Item: SBA Loan Program

a. The Northwest Piedmont Council of Governments and the Piedmont Triad Regional Council have been a lender for the Small Business Administration under their 504 Program for 33 years and have administered a total of 87 loans. During this time, we have made millions of dollars' worth of loans to small businesses, creating tax base for our member governments and jobs for the people of the region. Honoring this history, it is time for us to evaluate our current status with the program. This process has taken place at the regional level for the last five years. Currently the position at the regional level supports 10 counties (Caswell, Davidson, Davie,

- Forsyth, Montgomery, Randolph, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry, and Yadkin). We are working with two counties to roll out this function at the local level in Alamance and Guilford at their request. All 12 counties had the opportunity to do the same.
- b. In the 504m program we partner with banks to provide bridge funding. Banks are the primary lender, and we provide the gap needed for good projects that may be slightly under capitalized. The key part of this relationship is the need for the banks to partner to make a project happen. The 504m Program provides community banks the opportunity to access SBA funds while not developing the infrastructure to administer them.
- c. The banking environment has changed dramatically since the recession. Community banks have been acquired by larger banks. These larger banks have departments which package loans and access a different SBA program, the 7A Program. Banks get the fees for setting up 7A loans, and then can package these loans and sell them for additional profit. This has caused our 504 market to dry up.
- d. SBA requires that all lenders approve 4 new loans a year to remain active. We have not met this threshold for 3 years. The Executive Committee needs to discuss whether we voluntarily close our program, or consider strategies to produce more traffic and loan activity.
- e. Currently we have 15 active loans valued at \$6,355,000. No new loans in over two years because of bank consolidation (loss of community banks) and SBA 7-A Program (banks have their own program).
- f. Mr. Mark Richardson asked if there was a way to adjust it verses doing away with it all together. Mr. Matthew Dolge responded that we are covering our costs but we aren't fulfilling the program requirements because we have a part-time person not full time.
- g. Our options include voluntary withdraw, request for an extension and technical assistance or find new options for capital generation. Mr. Dolge added that most people in our region have ended their program. Like us, they can't afford a full-time staff person which is a requirement.
- h. Mr. Dolge makes the recommendation to voluntarily shut down our program. We won't be able to meet the requirements which is a disappointment. Self-help is involved so the program will still be available to our residents. We will still have availability to put together loans through our part-time staff person
- i. The Economic Development Loan Pool requires a dollar for dollar match on initial capitalization. It is locally and held and administered and can be used for business development. The EDA loan pool can be recapitalized with no match and regenerates as loans are recovered.
- j. Ms. Molly Leight asked if everyone is having the same problems, could the SBA program requirements be changed. Mr. Dolge stated that since it is a federal agency, he doesn't anticipate a change in the guidelines. We only represent a small part of their program.
- k. The EDA loan can be matched by Golden Leaf funds. This will be discussed more as the New Business Item 2.

# 4. New Business Item 2: Request for support of the FY 2017 Golden Leaf Foundation Community Based Grants Initiative (CBGI)

- a. Each county can apply for three projects. However Gold Leaf has agreed to accept letters of support for our PTRC proposal outside of the three requested county projects. PTRC will need letters of support. Mr. Dolge explained that because there is a limited amount of funds available, this could create competition and we do not wish to take away from counties' proposed projects.
- b. Mr. Dolge reiterated that we aren't asking counties to sacrifice funds for this.
- c. PTRC's goal is to reach one million dollars in the loan pool. We are asking from feedback from our counties.
- d. Ms. Peggy Leight asked how many counties are applying for the 31 million dollars. Mr. Jesse Day said 21 counties total. That would mean that it would only become a competition if all counties request full amount.
- e. Mr. Kevin Austin asked if all of our counties are included in Golden Leaf. Mr. Dolge answered all except Montgomery.
- f. Looking for feedback/consensus to look forward to this in the future.
- g. Ms. Marikay Abuzaiter asked what if your county isn't participating but would like funds. Mr. Dolge responded that we can discuss with each city and design our program to meet the needs of our counties. We have the opportunity to write the book ourselves.
- h. Mr. Jackie Morris asked if we would have a part in qualifying borrowers. Mr. Dolge stated that our goal is not to be the primary lender but instead the piece that helps programs reach their goal.
- i. After much discussion, the consensus of the group is that they are willing to move forward with dissolving the SBA loan program and also supporting the PTRC Golden Leaf proposal.

## 5. Executive Director's Report, Matthew Dolge, Executive Director

- a. Mr. Dolge is happy to report that after interviews, a candidate for Workforce Development Director has been chosen and has accepted the position. Trent Cockerham, Matt Reece, Jarrod Hand and Matthew Dolge were all a part of that interview process.
- b. As has been previously discussed, our Workforce Development program is facing 18% cuts. To lower costs while still focusing on service, our REACT center will be closed and will move to the first floor. We will also cut back on our space in Rockingham. These changes should put us in great shape moving forward and will free up money to serve people. It is still possible that we will have to release some of our staff to private contractors. This unrest has caused us to lose many staff members- a total of 8 so far. This puts more stress on the department.
- c. Please mark your calendars for the upcoming awards presentation at Triad Park on October 19<sup>th</sup>. Please feel free to invite other board members. We will present our

Grady Hunter Regional Excellence Award and our Randall Lake Billings Public Service Award. Get your nominations in! Hoping for wonderful weather.

# 6. Around the Region

- a. Mr. Jimmy Blake got to visit the Asheboro Airport. He appreciates the work of Jesse Day with RPO.
- b. Ms. Marikay Abuzaiter invited everyone to the National Folk Festival held in Downtown Greensboro this weekend. It is always a wonderful event. They shut down the city!
- c. Mr. Kevin Austin invited everyone to Yadkin County for the Harvest Festival this Saturday. It will be in downtown Yadkinville.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Kevin Austin, PTRC Treasurer

Katie Mitchell, Acting Clerk

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